Appl. No. 10/829,091   Page 2 of 11
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 November 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

A clean version of the entire set of pending claims, including amendments thereto, is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121(c)(3). This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The measurement/control system of claim 24, comprising:

~~configuration data source that provides a set of configuration data that specifies a measurement/control function;~~

~~a set of distributed devices each having means for obtaining the configuration data from the configuration data source and means for diffusing the configuration data among the distributed devices,~~

wherein the means for diffusing includes means for determining a relative staleness of a set of configuration data stored in the distributed devices.

2. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 1, wherein the configuration data source includes a source kiosk that obtains the configuration data from an application server.

3. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 1, wherein the configuration data source is co-located with a service provider accessible by one or more of the distributed devices.

4. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 1, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for forming a communication channel with a kiosk.

5. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 4, wherein the means for forming a communication channel includes means for forming a communication channel in response to a physical proximity to the kiosk.

Appl. No. 10/829,091   · Page 3 of 11
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 November 2008

6. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 1, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for forming a communication channel with another of the distributed devices.

7. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 6, wherein the means for forming a communication channel includes means for forming a communication channel in response to a physical proximity.

8. (Original) The measurement/control system of claim 1, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for determining a relative staleness of a set of configuration data stored in a kiosk and a set of configuration data stored in the distributed devices.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring a set of distributed devices, comprising the steps of:

providing to one or more of the distributed devices, via communication subsystems of the one or more distributed devices, a set of configuration data that configures the one or more distributed devices for performing specifies a measurement/control function; and

diffusing the provided configuration data among the distributed devices, wherein the step of diffusing includes the step of determining a relative staleness of different sets of configuration data.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of providing includes the step of obtaining the configuration data from an application server.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of providing includes the step of co-locating the configuration data with a service provider accessible by

Appl. No. 10/829,091
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 November 2008

Page 4 of 11

one or more of the distributed devices.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of diffusing includes the step of forming a communication channel between a pair of the distributed devices and communicating the configuration data from one of the pair of distributed devices to the other of the pair of distributed devices.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of forming a communication channel includes the step of forming a communication channel in response to a physical proximity of the pair of distributed devices to each other.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of diffusing includes: the step of

forming a first communication channel with between a first one of the distributed devices and a kiosk;

communicating the configuration data from the first distributed device and the kiosk via the first communication channel;

forming a second communication channel between a second one of the distributed devices and the kiosk; and

communicating the configuration data from the kiosk to the second distributed devices.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of forming [[a]] the first communication channel includes the step of forming [[a]] the first communication channel with the kiosk in response to a physical proximity [[of]] between the first communication device and the kiosk.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A distributed first device, comprising:

Appl. No. 10/829,091   Page 5 of 11
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 November 2008

a measurement/control subsystem;

means for obtaining from a remotely-located configuration data source a set of configuration data that ~~specifies~~ configures a second device, spaced apart from the first device, for performing a measurement/control function ~~from a configuration data source~~; and

means for diffusing the configuration data from the first device to ~~a set of other distributed devices, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for determining a staleness of the configuration data~~ the second device.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~distributed~~ first device of claim 18, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for forming a communication channel to the ~~other~~ second distributed ~~devices~~ device.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~distributed~~ first device of claim 19, wherein the means for forming a communication channel includes means for forming a communication channel in response to a physical proximity between the first device and the one or more other distributed devices.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~distributed~~ first device of claim 18, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for forming a communication channel [[to]]between the first device and a kiosk.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A measurement/control system, comprising:

a configuration data source that provides a set of configuration data that specifies a measurement/control function; and

a set of distributed devices each having means for obtaining the configuration

Appl. No. 10/829,091   **Page 6 of 11**
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 3 November 2008

data from the configuration data source and means for diffusing the configuration data among the distributed devices.

25. (New) the method of claim 10, wherein the step of diffusing includes the step of determining a relative staleness of different sets of configuration data.

26. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein the means for diffusing includes means for determining a staleness of the configuration data.

27. (New) The device of claim 18, where the first device is a portable wireless device, and wherein the second device is a portable wireless device.